# NOTE XI.

# A NEW AFRICAN HELOTA-SPECIES

DESCRIBED BY

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## *Helota Ferranti*, n. sp. ♂.

Allied to *H. guineensis* and *Sjöstedti*. Recognizable by having four black spots in the fulvous basal half of the elytra (two on each elytron), which spots are by two and two united posteriorly by an infuscation of the 4th interspace.

Length 14,5 mm. — Elongate, depressed, shining; fulvous, the head with mandibles (the throat excepted), a broad streak along the middle of the pronotum (anteriorly as broad as the neck), the basal and lateral edges of the pronotum, the scutellum, and the basal edge and larger (apical) half of the elytra black, the latter with a faint bronze hue; the fulvous basal portion of the elytra shows four black spots, two on each elytron: the larger, foremost one between the 3rd and 4th striae, the smaller hindmost one between the 5th and 6th striae, both united posteriorly by an infuscation of the 4th interspace, the hindmost one moreover united with the black apical half at the 6th stria; the space between these black spots and the black apical half is occupied by an almost inconspicuously swollen yellow spot of a somewhat trapezoidal shape, extending over the 4th, 5th and 6th interspaces and deeply entering into the black of the apical half; the fulvous colour of the basal half is slightly prolonged backward along the lateral margin. The antennae are reddish fulvous, with the exception of the club which is black. The legs are fulvous, with the trochanters, the apical third of the femora and the basal and apical fourth of the tibiae black; the tarsi are dark pitchy, the basal half of the clawjoint fulvous.

Head strongly produced in front of the eyes, slightly raised along the middle and here sparingly covered with large ovate punctures; the punctuation between the raised portion and the eyes very dense, on the narrowed front portion very minute.

Prothorax slightly broader at the base than long, slightly narrowing in faintly curved lines towards the front margin; the anterior angles slightly prominent, rounded; the base bisinuate, the lateral angles acute, the middle lobe rounded; the upper surface somewhat uneven, owing to some punctate impressions, very irregularly covered with large ovate punctures, leaving some spaces free of them. The scutellum is transverse, glossy and impunctate.

Elytra parallel-sided, rounded at the apices, dehiscent at the suture, the posterior margin faintly sinuated, shallowly notched between the suture and the 3rd interspace; each elytron with ten rows of small punctures which become larger towards the base and sides; the interspaces impunctate, the 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th and 9th more or less distinctly raised towards the apex, the two latter from one third behind the base; the 7th is the most distinct one, and the 3rd and 9th extend to the apical margin.

Under surface: the triangular middle-portion of the head rather remotely covered with very distinct punctures, the lateral portions are very densely punctured; the sterna show some large punctures laterally and the elytral epipleurae some minute punctures along the inner margin of the basal fourth. Legs impunctate; anterior tibiae slightly curved, their apical half fringed with fulvous hairs at the inner margin; the posterior tibiae densely fringed at the underside of their apical fourth with fulvous hairs which increase in length towards the tip of the tibia. Ventral segments with a minute hair-bearing puncture on both sides of the middle; the basal segment in the middle with a small tuft of fulvous hairs; the apical segment broadly truncate posteriorly, the lateral angles rounded; a large shallow impression, which has a triangular spot of a short fulvous pubescence in front of the truncation, along the middle of the segment.

Hab. Stanleyfalls: Belgian Congo (R. F. Kohl). — I have named this species, of which I have a single male-specimen before me, which belongs to the collection of the Leyden Museum, after Mr. Victor Ferrant, the able Conservator of the State Museum of Natural History at Luxemburg.

Leyden Museum, June 7, 1913.